



**California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Toxic Substances Control**

**FORMER CAL COMPACT LANDFILL
Carson**

Public Input Sought On Draft Remedial Action Plan

Fact Sheet #3

August 1995

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) seeks your input on a draft Remedial Action Plan and proposed Negative Declaration to clean up hazardous waste contamination at the former Cal Compact Landfill, Upper Operable Unit. Because of the size and complexity of the site, DTSC has divided it into two operable units; see page 2 under "Site History" for details.

This fact sheet also provides information about the remedial action proposal for the Upper Operable Unit, the assessment of health risks, an environmental review, a brief history, and some future activities. The site is located at 20300 South Main Street in the City of Carson, just south of the San Diego Freeway. DTSC is working with BKK Corporation (BKK), a potential responsible party, to investigate the hazardous and other waste contamination resulting from past activities conducted at the site's Upper Operable Unit.

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT

DTSC seeks your input on the draft Remedial Action Plan during the 30-day comment period (August 25 to September 25, 1995). During the comment period a public meeting is scheduled (see Announcement, this page). All comments received during this period will be reviewed and responded to, and the draft Remedial Action Plan will be modified as appropriate before it is finalized by DTSC.

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Carson Community Center
3 Civic Plaza, Room 107
801 E. Carson Street
Carson, California 90745
September 6, 1995
7:00 p.m.**

DTSC and BKK will hold a public meeting to provide more information about the draft Remedial Action Plan and proposed Negative Declaration for the former Cal Compact Landfill site and to receive public input.

We encourage you to attend this community meeting and share your comments and questions, or you may submit written comments by September 25, 1995 to:

**Thomas Cota, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
245 West Broadway, Suite 350
Long Beach, California 90802-4444**

Both DTSC and BKK encourage the community to take an active interest in the issues affecting the remediation of the former landfill site. Further information is available by visiting the local information repository or by contacting the project contacts. Specific contact and repository information is on the back page of this fact sheet.

SITE HISTORY

The former Cal Compact landfill was a Class II landfill. The site occupies about 157 acres at 20300 South Main Street, Carson, California, and is bounded on the north by the Del Amo Boulevard extension, and on the west and south by residential areas. The east boundary is the San Diego Freeway with the Dominguez Channel located just east of the freeway (See Figure 1, page 5).

DTSC is the lead agency overseeing the site investigation and cleanup process at this site. DTSC in March 1988 identified 12 potentially responsible parties in a Remedial Action Order (Docket No. 87/88-040). Only BKK responded to DTSC's order. As a potentially responsible party BKK has conducted the remedial investigation for the portion of the site known as the Upper Operable Unit.

DTSC has divided the site into two operable units, an Upper Operable Unit and a Lower Operable Unit. The Upper Operable Unit encompasses site soils, the waste zones, and the Bellflower Aquitard down to the Gage Aquifer. An aquitard is a layer of soil or rock below the surface of the earth that contains some water, but not enough to be pumped for beneficial use. An aquifer is a layer of soil or rock below the surface of the earth that has all its spaces filled with water, and when pumped will provide an appreciable amount of water. The Lower Operable Unit includes the Gage Aquifer and all aquifers below the Gage.

BKK was authorized with permits from the County of Los Angeles and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to operate the landfill, which was allowed to accept both municipal solid waste and specified industrial wastes. Operations at the landfill began in 1959 and ceased by 1968. Current calculations estimate that more than six million cubic yards of municipal and industrial waste were disposed of at the site.

Landfilling operations consisted of excavating portions of land, filling the resulting holes with

waste material, and covering the waste with soil to compact the area. Areas that were not used for landfilling include two haul roads and approximately 23 acres located north of the Del Amo Boulevard extension to the eastern boundary of the site. Roads and utilities were constructed at these locations.

SITE CONDITIONS

Site investigation under DTSC direction has been conducted over the last several years. The investigation focused on:

- Surface soil
- Ambient air
- Ground water
- Soil gas
- Waste zone constituents

Constituents of Concern

Investigations reveal low concentrations of hazardous constituents in isolated locations through the waste zones and the overlying soil. In the groundwater of the Upper Operable Unit, hazardous constituents were found to be highest in a zone along the western boundary of the site, adjacent to the Torrance Lateral Channel. Hazardous substances identified included benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX), and some semi-volatile compounds.

The following four areas of concern were identified during site investigations. Remedial alternatives were developed to protect public health and the environment for each area of contamination concern:

- Surface water
- Soil
- Groundwater
- Air

FEASIBILITY STUDY

A Feasibility Study (FS) was prepared to identify, develop and evaluate remedial action alternatives for the site. Six remedial action alternatives were developed and considered from which one was selected as the recommended alternative:

No Action/Institutional Controls. A no-action response means that the soil would be left "as is." This alternative must be evaluated in comparison to other options.

- *Limited Action.* This alternative involves monitoring groundwater and landfill gas.

- *Excavation and Incineration.* This alternative involves excavation of the waste, off-site incineration, and groundwater treatment.

- *Excavation and Disposal.* This alternative involves excavation of the waste, off-site disposal, and groundwater treatment.

- *Containment, Groundwater Treatment, and Landfill Gas Control.* This alternative includes containment of the waste, treatment of the groundwater, and controlling landfill gas.

- *Containment, No Groundwater Treatment, and No Landfill Gas Control.* This sixth alternative involves containment of the waste, no groundwater treatment, and no landfill gas control. Alternatives were evaluated by the federally required criteria, as follows (not in order of priority):

- Overall protection of public health and the environment.
- Long-term effectiveness and permanence.
- Immediate short-term effectiveness
- Reduction in mobility, toxicity, and volume of substances of concern.
- Technical implementability.
- Compliance with local requirements.
- Costs.
- Regulatory acceptance with a review of the permitting processes needed.
- Community acceptance.

REMEDIAL ACTION PROPOSAL

A draft Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was prepared to address the four areas of concern by proposing appropriate further remedial measures.

The cleanup proposal for the Upper Operable Unit, presented in the draft RAP, calls for capping the Upper Operable Unit, installing a groundwater treatment system, and (if required) installing a landfill gas collection and treatment system. The purpose of capping is to prevent the release of landfill gas into the atmosphere and to prevent surface water from moving into the waste zone and then into underlying groundwater. The purpose of the groundwater treatment system is to clean up the contaminated groundwater in the Upper Operable Unit.

A system of gas monitoring probes will be installed around the perimeter of the property. If there is detection of hazardous substances in landfill gases, then a collection and treatment system will be installed.

The former waste disposal zones and the soil now covering them will not be disturbed during the construction of the cap. These zones, including the cover soil, will be capped in accordance with State and federal guidelines. The proposed cap would be constructed of three layers, including a barrier layer of clay, which is intended as a seal over the waste zones. The extraction wells will pump contaminated groundwater to the surface for treatment prior to discharge. The water will be treated to meet sewer discharge standards, or to meet National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System standards if appropriate and cost-effective.

ASSESSING HEALTH RISKS

A Baseline Health Risk Assessment (HRA) was conducted by BKK, with DTSC oversight, to identify the potential health risk posed by the Cal Compact site in its current condition. Risk calculation methodologies were based primarily on guidance from DTSC and the federal Environmental Protection Agency. This guidance results in conservative estimates of risk. DTSC

approved the HRA, which concluded that if no remedial action occurred, thirty years of constant exposure could result in a significant increase in the lifetime cancer risk for an exposed population who lived on the former landfill.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an initial study was prepared for this site. The study indicates that the proposed remediation would not cause significant environmental impacts. A proposed Negative Declaration has been prepared for this project.

The proposed Negative Declaration and supporting documents are available for public review and comment during the 30-day comment period, which ends on September 25, 1995. Copies can be found at the information repositories (see back page for repository locations).

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

DTSC will approve a final Remedial Action Plan (RAP) following consideration of all comments and necessary modifications. Following this approval, a detailed design will be prepared to implement the RAP. After implementation of the RAP, DTSC will determine whether to certify the site as functioning properly and then begin long-term operation and maintenance of the remedial systems. Commercial Realty Projects Inc. will be responsible after the draft RAP for public participation aspects. The City of Carson along with DTSC will oversee future development of the site, including current plans to build a shopping mall.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

This fact sheet is a part of the DTSC public participation program for community members. A Public Participation Plan has been updated by DTSC and has been placed in the information repositories. The purpose of the plan is to provide information to interested community members and to encourage public involvement in

activities related to the site. Additional information may be obtained by reviewing documents located at the information repositories listed on this fact sheet or by contacting DTSC or BKK project contacts (see back page for project contact information). Other significant documents also will be placed in the repositories as they are updated and finalized.

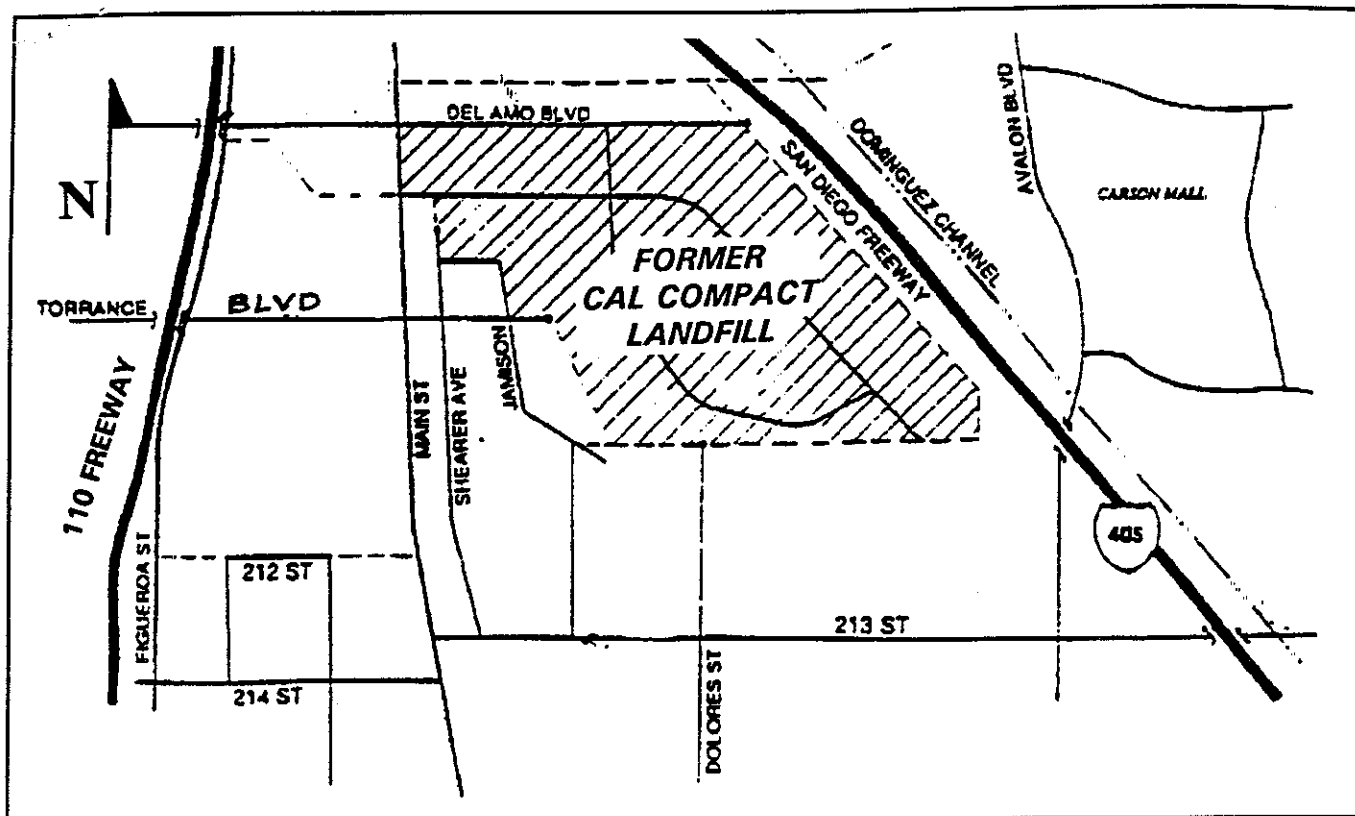


FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION MAP

MAILING COUPON

If you wish to comment on, or ask questions about, the draft Remedial Action Plan or the proposed Negative Declaration, please write them in the space below or on a separate sheet of paper, and mail to DTSC. If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail and would like to receive future mailings regarding the former Cal Compact site, please complete this coupon and return it to the following address:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
 Attention: Ed Schumacher, Public Participation Specialist
 245 West Broadway, Suite 350
 Long Beach, California 90802-4444

Name: _____
 Affiliation: _____
 Street: _____
 City, State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone: _____
 Comments: _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like additional information about the former Cal Compact Landfill site, please call the contacts listed below or visit and refer to the documents available at one of the information repositories.

Project Contacts

Thomas Cota
DTSC
Project Manager
(310) 590-4898

Ed Schumacher
DTSC
Public Participation Specialist
(310) 590-5539

Paul Neff
BKK Corporation
Regulatory Compliance
(818) 965-0911

Information Repositories

Department of Toxic Substances Control
245 West Broadway, Suite 350
Long Beach, California 90802-4444
Contact: Julie Johnson
(310) 590-4980

Carson Public Library
Reference Section
151 East Carson Street
Carson, California 90745
(310) 830-0901

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL
245 WEST BROADWAY, SUITE 350
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802-4444
ATTN: ED SCHUMACHER

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